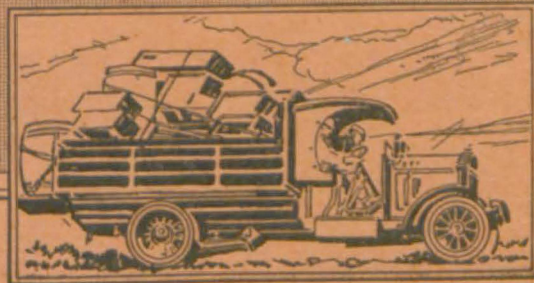
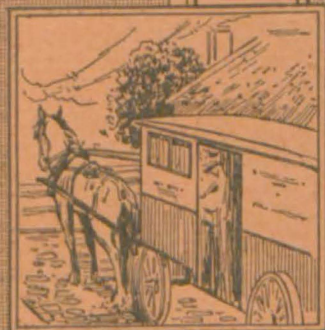


JUNE 1927

*Official Magazine*  
**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
TEAMSTERS - CHAUFFEURS  
STABLEMEN & HELPERS  
of AMERICA**





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**L**OCAL No. 710 Packing House Teamsters of Chicago just signed up their agreement averaging an increase in wages of from \$3.00 to \$4.00 a week.

Conditions in that local union looked pretty serious for a while. The International endorsed a strike involving the entire membership. The General President recommended the endorsement and the Board unanimously adopted the recommendation.

The packing house industry has not been making any enormous amount of money in recent years, that is, compared with what they made during the war, but from the information we had at hand, they were making sufficient to give their drivers, chauffeurs and helpers a little more money and better conditions than what they were enjoying.

The last thing the General Executive Board desires to do is to sanction a strike and we only do so as a last resort and when a strike cannot be avoided. In the case of Local No. 710 we felt the employers were taking an unjust and unreasonable position, consequently the Board acted.

After the endorsement was granted another conference was asked for, and the agreement, granting the conditions as stated above, was obtained by the local.

Great credit is due Business Agent John O'Brien, and those who assisted him, for the tact, patience and judgment used in bringing about the settlement.



**A**STRIKE against the Yellow Taxicab Company of Rochester, New York, has been going on for ten weeks. Organizer Ashton has been in the district helping and advising. The entire labor movement of Rochester is supporting the chauffeurs. The Yellow Taxicab Company in that city is owned by a man named Zorn. The union has not been successful in bringing Mr. Zorn to terms, but they have been successful in turning two-thirds of his business over to the other companies, all of whom have signed up.



**L**OCAL UNION No. 810, Laundry Drivers of New York City, are having trouble with one of their employers, and they are making a wonderful fight. The International Union has endorsed their strike and is paying strike benefits. Mike Cashal is helping the local union in every way possible.



**B**ROTHER ED McCaffrey of Local No. 282 of New York City, having jurisdiction over men who are hauling building material and doing excavating work, is battling with several building employers in that city. He is being most ably and honorably assisted by the Building Trades Council, of which his local is a part. He informs me that Brother McConville of the Hoisting Engineers has pulled his men off the job for two weeks in order to help our people.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Engineers for their assistance and assure them we will reciprocate when an opportunity presents itself.

Brother McCaffrey will add, as a result of this fight, not less than 500 names to his membership.

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# OFFICIAL MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS STABLEMEN AND HELPERS

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## Freedom to Cease Work Is Not Mere Theory

THE ANTI-UNION Los Angeles Times is angry because the Musicians' Union of that city decided that no member shall be employed by a broadcast station that employs non-union musicians.

"The decision," says the Times, "means that many independent musicians will be deprived of a large part of their means of livelihood."

This is another way of saying that union musicians have not the right to refuse to work for any reason satisfactory to themselves.

The United States Supreme Court has made a contrary ruling in the Indiana stone cutters' case, and thereby supports the Times, but this decision, which Justice Brandeis has called "involuntary servitude," is not the final word. Courts find ways to respond to enlightened public opinion.

If workers are free men they control their labor power. If this power—that is inseparably linked with man—can be regulated, as is a commodity or a corporation that has been created by the state, the worker is not free.

The fact that others may be inconvenienced by the exercise of this right does not affect the principle of freedom.

A nation can not profess freedom and practice tyranny.

If workers must give their labor lest others be inconvenienced, where is the difference between this and Mussolini's system that outlaws



strikes and sets wages by compulsory arbitration?

Human rights can not be subjected to counting room standards. The difference between the serf and the free man is that the latter can cease employment. He can refuse to serve. He does not have to ask others. He must not be a victim of what the Montana Supreme Court has termed "judicial legerdemain" that acknowledges this right in theory and denies it in practice.

The human being is not an appendage of the state or of business—at least not in America.

By driving home this point, organized labor will create a public opinion that conforms with the Declaration of Independence and which will then be reflexed by judges, editors and others who dare not publicly class labor as a commodity, but who subconsciously cling to this serf ideal.—News Letter.

### *Justice Brandeis Arms Court Opponents*

Justice Brandeis of the United States Supreme Court has armed free men in their fight against the court's opinion in the stone cutters' case.

Justice Brandeis' dissenting view includes this scathing denunciation of a slave decision:

"If, on the undisputed facts of this case, refusal to work can be enjoined, Congress created by the Sherman law and the Clayton act an instrument for imposing restraints upon labor which reminds of involuntary servitude."

Here is a member of the highest court in our country objecting to a decision that means serfdom—a condition wherein free men must labor under conditions obnoxious to them, but which they must accept because interstate commerce may be affected.

The right of workers to withhold their labor power—the difference be-

tween free men and slaves—is wiped out.

Justice Brandeis has said the last word in his reproach to an institution that is supposed to guard the liberties of citizens, but which, according to one of its own members, would enslave workers.

The majority opinion again emphasized the solicitude this court shows for combinations of capital which are accused under the Sherman anti-trust law and the rigidity with which it applies this act, and ignores the Clayton amendments thereto, when labor is involved.

To permit combinations of capital to escape, the court invented the term "rule of reason." Or, in other words, the court says: "We must use reason in applying the law." In the steel trust case, handed down March 1, 1920, the court said that if this trust were dissolved "we see \* \* \* a material disturbance of, and, it may be serious detriment to, the foreign trade." Rarely has this court so openly declared that law must be enforced with an eye to business.

In the stone cutters' case the court ignored the Clayton amendment to the anti-trust law which exempts trade unions. The court persists in classifying labor organizations with corporations, though one is composed of human beings while the other is a thing created by the state.

Under the stone cutters' decision workers can not refuse to work for any reason or no reason. There was no boycotting, no pleading with non-unionists to join with them or other action that courts refer to as "coercion" and "intimidation." The stone cutters simply refused to work on the non-union product, as Justice Brandeis clearly shows. He points out that the majority decision breaks new paths in judicial history and differs from every other so-called "labor case," such as Danbury Hatters, Bucks Stove and Duplex.

The majority opinion declares that



the stone cutters must handle this stone and reverses two lower courts who refused to issue injunctions to that effect.

It is beside the question to say that the court can not jail the organized population of the country. This will not be attempted. The decision will be used only to the extent of breaking the workers' spirit through fear of involvement with courts. With the spirit of the workers broken, it is hoped they will then serve as strike-breakers against their fellows.

Justice Brandeis warns workers what is in store for them. He says it will enslave them; that it will take from them the right to elect under what conditions they will labor.

Free institutions and a respect for our judiciary can not exist under such methods.—Garment Worker.

### ***"I Believe in Unions," Haley Fiske Declares***

That modern trade unions were an outgrowth of friendly (insurance) societies, and that whatever measure of justice workers enjoy today was entirely due to their unions and hard fighting, were statements made by Haley Fiske, octogenarian president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, in an address to his Canadian officers.

"I believe in unions and strikes," he said. "No doubt they are sometimes wrong. But it is a fight, and when you are in a fight, the combatants are not to be separated by saying some are sheep and some are goats."

President Fiske recalled that prior to the rise of manufacturing, wages of agricultural workers in England were eight shillings and six pence a week. Manufacturing began largely in the form of the "putting out system," but the conditions of labor grew worse. The agricultural worker's wage was reduced by as much as wife and children could make in the

new manufactures. The law enforced hard labor and thrift. A family with a child over six years who could not knit, was not entitled to poor law relief when the head of the family was ill or out of work.

The common law imposed savage penalties against combinations of labor. But the workers formed informal friendly societies, or box clubs. At taverns where they congregated they kept a box, into which they dropped pennies, to take care of their sick. The ruling caste began to encourage these sick insurance societies, but when they found out the workers were beginning to talk about their rights, or rather wrongs, "the employers were clamorous for the subjugation of men who dared to talk about bettering their condition."

In 1824 an investigating commission found that these friendly societies, nominally for insurance, had become trade unions. Whether because the politicians feared their power or because the conscience of the nation was stirred by the revelation of the deplorable conditions of the workers, the laws against combinations were repealed. About this time the master class of England seems to have discovered that the human work animal might be a creature with a "soul."

At any rate, the rise of modern trades unions began in 1824, and they are still fighting and need to fight, said Mr. Fiske.—International Labor News Service.

### ***Will Union Label Be Fought Next?***

New York.—The Electrical World hints that the next attack on organized labor will attempt to outlaw the union label. This spokesman for employing interests says: "Recent Supreme Court decisions under the Sherman anti-trust law offer a precedent for not recognizing the efforts of labor to put the union label on all products."



Counsel for electrical manufacturers, it is stated, hold that any union label agreement that applies to electrical appliances "would constitute a violation of the anti-trust laws by both the unions and the contractors participating therein, and that contractors who connive or acquiesce would be equally responsible under the law notwithstanding the fact they might not be the moving parties. The belief has been expressed by several men in the industry that should it become established that electrical fixtures must bear a union label, there will be no limit to the number of commodities which will fall under the same ban."

The significance of the above statement lies in the fact that the use of the union label by organized electrical workers affects the General Electric Company. This powerful trust is notoriously anti-union and may be laying the groundwork for calling on the courts to protect its autocratic control of employees.—  
News Letter.

### *England's Anti-Trade Union Bill*

London, England.—Despite a nation-wide protest by organized labor and sympathizers, the government's anti-trade union bill passed the second reading in the House of Commons.

The bill as amended makes illegal any strike "designed or calculated to coerce the government either directly or by inflicting hardship upon the community."

Civil employees must sever all connection with the trade union movement, and political activities of organized labor will be subject to drastic regulations.

During the past week great labor demonstrations against "the Black-legs' Charter" has been held throughout Great Britain.

Winston Churchill, a leader of the government forces, indicated that

these demonstrations will not affect the passage of the bill. At a meeting of 10,000 Conservatives in this city he revamped all the familiar anti-union cries, and insisted that the nation is threatened by "a power which demands a different set of loyalties from those which are due the state." As the meeting was approved by Premier Baldwin, the struggle indicates that for the present all talk about "better understandings between capital and labor" is ended.

Every effort is made to create the opinion that last year's national strike is behind the bill. The workers insist that this claim is window dressing. They show that within the past seven years 11 attacks have been made on organized labor by Conservatives in the House of Commons.

Trade unionists claim that the pending legislation will only make matters worse. James H. Thomas, secretary of the National Union of Railway Men, declared on the floor of the House of Commons that anyone who believes the bill will stop strikes when working standards are threatened is living in a fool's paradise.—  
News Letter.

### *A Billion-Dollar Tip to the Allies*

To our World War allies who owe us money:

If you really would like to get out of paying your war debts to the United States, or have them materially reduced—again—we very respectfully suggest a change of tone.

Don't try to make it appear that we swindled you.

You see, the \$12,000,000,000 you owe us represents money every-day American citizens scraped together to lend you to carry on a war which neither they nor their Government, had any hand in bringing on.

Through no fault of theirs you became involved in war. Your very existence was in the balance. And you were dead broke. You had to



have money and supplies or surrender to the Kaiser. We let you have both and, be it said in our favor, at a time when it was obvious that only a miracle could save you.

In short the American people not only made very real sacrifices and ran very real risks in lending you that money, but they did so imbued by the highest ideals and out of the very fullness of their hearts.

Thus today, they keenly resent the constantly recurring insinuations, not to say direct charges, that we took advantage of you and cheated you, and that because of these things, you, our former allies, owe us nothing but contempt.

Oh, yes, we had our conscienceless profiteers in this country just as you had in yours. No doubt, as you say, big profits were made on the materials they sold you. But your own agents did the purchasing and approved of every dollar's worth of stuff bought.

Blame your agents, if you like, and our profiteers, but don't keep saying disobliging things of the American people who came to your rescue in your hour of need.

Francois Marshall, former premier and finance minister of France, now a prominent Paris banker, has come out with another book of why the allies should not pay the United States. In its arraignment of our country it is typical of a new and fast growing European library which already would lack room on a five-yard, not to mention a five-foot, book shelf.

M. Marshall's thesis is "Let's Arbitrate the Debts." He would submit the question to a Franco-American board, the League of Nations, World Court or the Vatican. And his is the usual argument:

"The money France borrowed was spent in this country where unconscionable profits were extorted. The whole thing being a bit shady, why should France pay?"

We submit the allies are on the wrong track. There is not a fairer minded individual in the world than the American and he's so sentimental he'd give the shirt off his back. But you're tackling the wrong person if you try to get it by demands, abuse or threats to take it.

This newspaper has never ceased to hold that a revision of the entire war debts and reparations question may prove necessary. But the allies are very much in their own light if they think they can bully America into cancellation.

An ounce of tact is worth a pound of abuse. We offer this tip to the allies, gratis. And it's worth a billion dollars at the very least.—Indianapolis Times.

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### *Union's Large Growth*

New York.—New York Typographical Union No. 6 has a membership of 10,225. Its membership record since 1900, when its membership was 5,400, has been continuous. In 1850 the union had a membership of 28.—News Letter.

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### *Remedy for Crime Is Sought in Vain*

New York.—No "general panacea" for crime has been discovered, but several preventive and remedial agencies were recommended by speakers who addressed the annual New York City Conference of Charities and Correction.

In urging a living wage, Rev. William A. Courtney said: "Crime is the price we must pay for living in tremendously congested areas filled with temptations."

Miss Jane Hoey of the New York State Crime Commission said the commission's study of two New York City areas had disclosed that bad housing, overcrowding, the forcing of children to play in the streets and of youth to seek its recreation in



poolrooms and motion picture theaters contributed to juvenile delinquency.—News Letter.

### ***Bruce McRae Passes On***

New York.—Bruce McRae, one of America's best known actors, is dead after a six-months' illness. He was vice president of the Actors' Equity Association, affiliated to the A. F. of L. During the Equity strike, a few years ago, which involved all New York theaters, he took a prominent part.—News Letter.

### ***Internal Dispute Ended by Two Unions***

Washington.—By a 4-to-1 vote the membership of the International Brotherhood of Steam Shovel and Dredgemen's Union favor amalgamation with the International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers. The decision ends a 10-years' jurisdictional dispute.

District charters of steam shovelmen will be issued by the International Union of Steam Engineers. The international president and secretary-treasurer of the dredgemen's union will serve as representatives of the steam engineers' organization.

The agreement was signed by representatives of both interests. The chairman of the committee was W. R. Roberts, legislative representative of the A. F. of L.—News Letter.

### ***Ohio Assembly Next Faces Yellow Dog Bill Test***

Columbus, Ohio.—Having passed the Senate, labor's anti-yellow dog contract bill is now before the Assembly, with labor confident of final victory.

The labor haters have resorted to every possible parliamentary trick and to every move that might hold the bill back until the Legislature adjourns.

Labor, however, with the best organization it ever had, is driving the fight every inch of the way. Before the Assembly committee, labor brought 350 trade unionists from all parts of the State for a hearing which won friends for the bill and made apparently certain its passage.—News Letter.

### ***Confidence Marks Labor Ranks After First Vote***

Sacramento, Cal.—By a vote of 43 to 36, the Assembly has passed the anti-yellow dog contract bill sponsored by the California State Federation of labor, crowning the first round of the fight with victory for the labor movement.

Assemblyman Sewell, who represents the labor crushers of Los Angeles in the Assembly, moved for reconsideration, but the labor forces are confident of their ability to hold their majority on reconsideration.—News Letter.

### ***Maine Legislature Passes Labor Laws***

Portland, Me.—The Maine legislature has authorized a thorough investigation of the workmen's compensation law during the 11 years of its existence and amended the state child labor act by raising the employment age from the sixth to the eighth grade, making illegal the employment of minors under 16 as operators of elevators in hotels, lodging houses and apartments and as attendants or ushers in theaters, and prohibiting the employment of minors under 14 in bowling alleys and poolrooms. The legislature also accepted the Shepherd-Towner maternity act and made an appropriation for its administration.

These measures were sponsored by the Maine State Federation of Labor.—News Letter.



# EDITORIAL

(By Daniel J. Tobin)

TWENTY YEARS AGO this month, in the old office of Local No. 25, corner of Beverly and Causeway Streets, Boston, with a coterie of loyal old friends, I finally made up my mind to be a candidate for the office of General President of our International Union. We had thrashed out the situation confronting us, from every angle, and after having several conferences with friends of the International from Chicago, and elsewhere, the above decision was reached.

It was stated plainly by those from the West, who knew more about the condition of the International than did we in Boston, that if the then International President was re-elected, there would not be any International in a short time.

Many of those who participated in that small conference have since passed to the Great Beyond, but there are a few of the faithful, who remember what transpired, still left. It was decided that it was necessary for some eastern man to be the candidate, as the incumbent was an eastern man and the other two principal offices, that of General Secretary-Treasurer and General Auditor, were filled by Chicago men. The men holding those two principal offices were bitterly opposed to the then head of the organization and one of them stated he did not desire to continue in office if the then President of the organization was re-elected.

I had been business agent of the Truck Drivers' Union Local No. 25 for about four years. I had a family of five children and a little home, which I was paying for, and it was rather a serious proposition for me to decide to sever connections with all my associations and my family and assume the responsibility, if elected, of trying to bring back the general organization to where it ought to be. It may seem egotistical to make this statement, but for months I hesitated. The International was in a fearful condition; torn with secession movements in different sections of the country. In New York City we had but one whole union and the remnant of another left. In the independent, or seceding, organization there were ten members to every one member in the International. There were but few members left in New Jersey. Two of the good unions in San Francisco were outside the International. Every union in St. Louis had pulled away from the International, disgusted with conditions that obtained. In Chicago, the headquarters for the United Teamsters of America, the membership was about equally divided between the U. T. of A. and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Some of the old leaders who had helped to organize the Teamsters movement had pulled away and were promoting a National organization.

In addition to this, the famous trials in Chicago were about ended and although the defendants had been acquitted, the unpleasant odor remaining as a result of the nation-wide publicity the International had received through its officers who were on trial, had practically destroyed the usefulness of the International Union.

The general membership had dwindled to approximately 28,000, and the report of the General Secretary-Treasurer, made to the Boston convention, showed there was about \$4,000 in the general treasury of the International, and I am safe in saying that the International Union was in debt.



several thousands of dollars more than that held in the treasury. There were several legitimate strikes that had been endorsed by the International where benefits had been cut off because the International did not have any money.

My own Local Union No. 25 had 400 men out on strike which had been endorsed by the International, and after receiving three weeks' benefits, which were then only \$5.00 a week, we were notified that the International had no more money with which to pay our benefits. However, we continued on strike for six months afterwards, begging money from other trade unions throughout the New England district to help feed and take care of the strikers and their families.

This was a fearful state of affairs for an organization that had four short years before, in 1903, started out with such splendid hopes of accomplishment. Is it, therefore, any wonder that I hesitated to accept the candidacy of General President? I want to say now, after the years that have passed, that were it not for the pleadings of my loyal friends, for whom I have the greatest reverence and respect, and their begging and beseeching me to help keep the International Union together and build it up, I never would have decided to leave all those who were dear to me in and around Boston, to take upon my shoulders the load of trying to rebuild the institution which was, seemingly, wrecked; that institution and organization which had done so much for us in a few short years.

I did not know if I did become a candidate whether or not I had any chance for election, as the then General President had all the machinery in his hands. He had with him the few organizers who were on the road and all of the rough element in the organization—and there were plenty at that time in every city in the country. I had with me the best element, and the cause of justice and honesty on our side, so, about June 9, 1907, I gave to my friends the definite answer that I would be a candidate for the office of General President. The election took place in Boston on August 9th, and I was successful in winning the office of General President by a majority of twelve votes.

It was a memorable occasion—one never to be forgotten, as the fate of hundreds of thousands of our people were at stake, also the Labor Movement in general would be somewhat affected. Everyone, therefore, seemed delighted that the delegates of the Teamsters' organization, assembled in convention in Boston, had decided to throw off the old yoke of dishonesty and disloyalty and buckle on the armor of trying to bring back the organization to where it ought to be.

Nearly every officer of the American Federation of Labor rejoiced because of the change. They did not know me then as they know me now. In fact, I was a stranger to the labor movement outside of Boston, but the officers of national and international unions—with few exceptions—and those of the American Federation of Labor were pleased because nothing could be any worse than what had been.

Twenty years—one-fifth of a century—is a long time. Many of those who at the convention gave their best and labored day and night to bring about a change are not with us today. I have before me a list of the delegates and, looking over the names, I notice a number who are no longer with us, but I cannot help remembering the service they rendered our organization. They did not fear any threats; they did not accept any false promises; they could not be deceived; they wanted only that which was right and stood for it tenaciously until victory crowned their efforts.



What a change from that time and today? In those days Cincinnati had less than two hundred members. Today they have several thousand; every union working under a strictly union-shop agreement. They are watched and looked after by General Organizer Thomas Farrell, who never ceases through reasoning and diplomacy to get more, and still more, for the men.

At that time Bill Neer was president of Local Union No. 753. A fellow by the name of Camp was secretary-treasurer. The Milk Drivers had about nine hundred members; the secretary-treasurer absconded with all of their money and Bill Neer was made secretary-treasurer. Today, the local union has 6,200 members with money and assets amounting to \$300,000 and their members pay \$6.00 a month dues.

Under the leadership of Mr. St. Clair every member in St. Louis went over to the independent, or seceding, national organization. St. Clair was one of the officers of that organization. Today, every man driving a team or auto in St. Louis belongs to the International and under the guidance of Daniel J. Murphy, International Vice-President in the district, we have several splendid unions. Brother Murphy is also president of the Central Labor Union and no better type of trade unionist is to be found anywhere. The unions are law-abiding and respected by every one in the district.

I could go on mentioning other places, but it is not necessary. I feel that you will understand what it was then and what it is now. The International today has cash in the several banks in which it does business amounting to close to a million and a half dollars, and we do not owe any one a dollar. In these twenty years no local union, whose strike was approved, has been refused one dollar to which it was legally entitled. Our membership runs from 80,000 to 100,000 depending on conditions in industry. No organization in the American Federation of Labor stands higher or is more respected than your International Union. Its members have been chosen on more than one occasion to represent the trade unionists of America, chartered under the banner of the American Federation of Labor, on important committees and conventions.

It has been twenty years of struggling and suffering and also great rejoicing. There were times when the clouds which hung over us were so heavy that no one except those directly connected with the institution ever understood the seriousness of our condition.

I have been helpful in bringing back into the fold those who had left us. I have been helpful in stamping out dishonesty, dissension and the bitter antagonism existing in many cities. Some day, some how, when I have time and the cares of the organization are on some one else's shoulders, I will endeavor to put in writing some of the important and interesting happenings connected with the life of our International Union for the benefit, and I trust, the guidance of those who will have to steer the wheels of this International Union in the years to come.

Twenty years of building up our organization and in helping to break down the barriers that prevented our progress. The one thing which I can look back to with satisfaction is that I believe I have kept faith with those who cast their votes for me in the Boston convention in 1907.

I have been supported and helped by some of the most loyal co-workers with which any organization or institution was ever blessed. Without them I could not have brought about the condition which we enjoy today.

There are many men who might wish to retrace their steps, or set



back the hands of time twenty years, but I assure you, my brothers, that I have no desire to be classed with such men. There has been many happenings, and many a serious crisis, within our International Union, which I cannot relate here, but I do assure you I would not want to go back and go through all of it again, much as I love life, its friendships, its associations and its enjoyments.

In the early days, and for many years, the salary paid the International Officers was quite small. The International organizers received \$24.00 a week, or less than \$100.00 a month, and the International President received \$150.00 a month. Today we are treated as well, if not better, in the matter of salary and expenses than most of the officers of organizations of labor. For years it was a case of from hand-to-mouth, sleeping in cheap hotels when traveling, and eating at cheap lunch rooms, as the amount allowed for expenses was only \$2.50 a day. You can also realize how difficult it was sometimes when meeting officers of other International Unions and with our local representatives for our officers to keep up their end and at the same time pay for their hotel and meals, car fare and telephones out of their \$2.50 a day. It had to be done and none of us regret the sacrifices we made or the work we have done, because there is no more generous or appreciative membership in any organization in the world than the general membership of our International Union.

Ever since the day I was elected in Boston, although we have had many conventions since, there has never been a candidate against me for the office I hold. To many this may not seem of great importance, but to me I feel as though it is a stamp of approval on the services I have rendered.

Twenty years of watching, waiting and eternally striving for a brighter and better day for our people. Twenty years of advising, consulting and harmonizing with our people in the different sections of the country. Twenty years of joys and sorrows and watching the big men in our great labor movement of America come and go.

Those of you who were with me at the Boston convention can see how the hand of the Great Reaper has carefully selected some of the best we had with us in those days and left us to face the battle without the assistance of those true friends. Yes, and it is but a reminder that we too, you and I, will soon follow on that same road and when we are called, as we surely will be, we can rejoice in the fact that while serving on the battle front, endeavoring to help make conditions better and brighter for the men working at our craft, we have been true and loyal to our trust, and when turning over the affairs of this great institution to those who are to follow, we only hope that they will do better than we have done, or, at least, will do as well, to the end that this great institution of labor will keep gaining in strength, prestige, decency and justice until the sufferings of even the humblest individual working at our craft will be relieved and the conditions of the toilers made still brighter and better.



IT WOULD GIVE ME a great amount of pleasure, if wherever there are two, three, or four of the old boys left that attended the Boston Convention in 1907, twenty years ago, that they get together on the night of August 9th and have a little lunch (even a sandwich) and live again the scenes of twenty years ago in Boston. Remember all of those who are gone, that were with us then, and don't forget to drink a toast on me.



## *A Glimpse of the Impressions Made Upon Me While Traveling Through Europe*

(Continued from last month)

ONE DAY WHILE TRAVELING between Nice and Milan, I was experiencing some difficulty in ordering my lunch as the waiter was Italian and did not understand any English, when a gentleman, seated across the aisle, volunteered his assistance. He spoke English fluently. After he had helped me and we had finished eating and as we had to travel all day and all night together, we broke into conversation. I said to him, "Europeans have the advantage over Americans as most of them can speak two or three languages." He answered: "That is necessary over here, especially for traveling men, because the countries are so close together and the language of each country is spoken somewhat in all the others. You cannot do business over here unless you can speak the language of the people to whom you are endeavoring to sell your wares." I asked, "How did you happen to acquire the faculty of speaking such good English?" He answered, "Well, I spent two years in Philadelphia, leaving there about thirty years ago, but I always kept up my English." Shortly afterwards, as is usually the case, the conversation drifted towards the war. He said, "If you Americans had kept out of the war, everything would have been all right. It is a pity you were dragged into it through the clever work of the British and the French. They certainly used you Americans to pull their chestnuts out of the fire, etc." I said: "My dear man, judging from your statements, you must be a German." "No," he said, "I am a Hollander, coming from Amsterdam." "Well," I said, "I was in Amsterdam some years ago and found a very good class of people there, thoroughly honest and industrious, but your country is very close to Germany and you have a Teutonic strain in your blood and during the war you were strongly pro-German." He answered, "No sir, we were not, we were neutral." I continued by saying "Every neutral country I found in Europe, including Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, and the others, were without exception pro-German, that is, were very friendly to Germany and helping all they could, under cover." I said further, "I do not blame Holland very much as she was right at the door of Germany and Austria, and could be trampled on at any time. Switzerland and Holland sold all their agricultural products, and everything else they had to sell, at enormous prices to Germany. Again, before the war, the prosperity in Germany had helped every country in Europe having dealings with Germany." He said, "My dear sir, we are all fond of America and we deeply regretted America going into the war. There is not any question but what Germany would have been successful except for America's participation in the war. Now then, you people did not have any grievance against Germany; you were over there and getting along in splendid shape, so why did you embroil yourselves in the war? Surely, unless you were deceived—as we believe you were—you would not have gone into the dirty mess."

I want to say to our readers, that all this conversation was quite friendly and with not the least sign of bitterness. One of the qualities of the people of the Teutonic countries is that they can argue without becoming offended or unnecessarily excited. They are distinctly opposite



to the French and Italians who become quite excited and easily offended in an argument.

My friend from Amsterdam was very gentlemanly and a high-class business man and in his conversation was quite entertaining and interesting. I received a good deal of valuable information from him about some of the places I had visited, and was about to visit.

I said to him further: "Have you been reading the letters of Col. House?" (They were at that time being printed in the newspapers of our country.) He answered, "No." I then said, "If you would read those letters and your mind is open to conviction, you would glean from them that Col. House—the special messenger of Woodrow Wilson—did everything in his power to try and bring about an understanding that would keep America out of the war. He had several conferences with the Kaiser and as a result of one of the conferences, according to his statement, it was his opinion that not only could America stay out of the war, but that there was a chance for America to be the arbiter in bringing about a settlement between the warring nations, thus ending the terrible conflict." I said further, "I have not a great deal of use for Col. House, especially since I have been reading his letters, because he likes to make it appear as though he was running the President of the United States; and as President Wilson has passed away there is no way of disputing some of his references to President Wilson, but the belief of most of the American people is that President Wilson could not be led by the nose or be dictated to by any man. Col. House also intimates that he was the man who made Wilson President, but the American people know that while he may have done his bit in assisting, that it took more than Col. House to make a President of the United States." I also said to my good friend, the Dutchman, that I believed from the House description of the negotiations in his letters that he was the direct representative of President Wilson and that his statements were absolute facts, and his reference to his conversations with the Kaiser have never been denied by the Kaiser.

I also said, "My good friend, why should we want to enter the war? Wilson was elected in 1916 on the program, 'He kept us out of the war.' The great bulk of the American people were opposed to entering the war, and because of Wilson's successful efforts in keeping us out of the war, he defeated the strongest and most able man in the Republican party—Judge Hughes—in 1916 in a clean-cut election. Wilson was a Democrat; Hughes a Republican. The country is normally Republican. The Republican leaders everywhere, including the late Theodore Roosevelt, were hollering for war and endeavoring to besmirch the name of Wilson by calling him a coward, and other names, because, up to that time, he had not declared war against Germany and her associates, but, as I said before, Wilson won the election, which proved conclusively that the American people did not want war with Germany and her cohorts. Then was sunk the Lusitania with her large number of distinguished American citizens. A notice appeared in the newspapers, prior to the sailing of the Lusitania, in which it was stated that she would be sunk. A number of lives were lost in that terrible catastrophe, and in line with the shrewd cleverness of the German diplomats, they thought the matter over and said that some over-zealous officer had violated orders and would be called to account for same, and Wilson and his Cabinet accepted the explanation. Shortly afterwards, other ships were sunk, then Germany issued the ultimatum that she would sink all ships carrying food, arms or



other assistance to the enemy countries. From this you will see," I said, "there was nothing left for the American nation except to declare war after the issuing of such an ultimatum." My Dutch friend answered, "Well, wasn't that all right? You were helping our enemies." I answered by saying, "There is an international law guaranteeing freedom of the seas to all neutral nations not participating directly in the conflict. The threat or ultimatum issued by the Germans was a violation of that law, as we, a neutral nation, were threatened." He said, "Had your country ceased carrying food and other materials to England and France, your ships would not have been interfered with." I answered saying, "We reserve the right to sell our food and other products to any purchaser in any part of the world; we would have sold to Germany just the same as to England could Germany have taken our materials."

I said, "My good friend, Germany, in the judgment of a great many people, had the war won, had she not become drunk with her power and her victories, and because of her victories and her great egoism she became blinded with the belief that it was impossible to defeat her. She also believed that America did not amount to very much. Germany had established and was maintaining in our country the greatest propaganda system ever maintained by any country in any part of the world. When they issued their ultimatum that forced us into the war, and when we went into the war—as we did—every man stood by Wilson and our government until the end, which brought victory for the Americans and the Allies. In the judgment of most people, Germany lost the war through her own foolishness. The best proof that we did not have any desire to enter the war was that when the war was ended we did not ask for anything. We did not want any extra territory. We did not want any indemnity except part of the amount that we were compelled to expend, and part of the large sums of money which we loaned the Allies about which some of them are disputing at this time. All of the other countries at war with Germany wanted territory, even wanted to divide Germany, but in all of the conferences in which President Wilson participated after the war he stood as firm as a rock and said to Orlando, Clemenceau and Lloyd George, 'You cannot destroy the German nation if you expect them to pay you back what you are demanding, or if you expect to re-establish peace and prosperity in Europe.' Later on, because of Wilson's refusal to agree with Mr. Orlando, the Italian representative, he packed up his traps and left the conference. Clemenceau did the same thing but Lloyd George eventually agreed that Wilson was right, because the wily Welshman knew there was no other alternative, so, in the face of all this, my dear friend, how can you say that America wished to enter the war, in view of the fact, that America gave her best and received nothing?"

I said, "I have been through the war stricken regions of France; I have seen the American graveyards and as I gazed upon the little white crosses bearing the names of our American soldiers, I realized those lives had to be sacrificed. It was a pity, but we could not keep out of it."

I had practically convinced Mr. Dutchman, because he said: "You have told me many things I did not know before. The war is over and we hope there will never be a repetition of it. England will not recover from the war in fifty years. There was one thing, however, we did find out, and that was, the Kaiser had over ten million dollars deposited in the banks of England and we learned that ninety days before war was declared, he withdrew that sum from the English banks and deposited

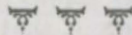


same in a bank in Holland." I said, "My dear friend, what would that indicate? Does that not prove to you that the Kaiser was expecting to have serious trouble with England?" "Well," he answered, "reach your own conclusions."

As to the accuracy of this statement, I cannot say. Perhaps I should have inquired in Berlin or in England whether or not there was any truth in the statement of the Holland merchant. This man was a substantial looking business man and did not appear to be one who would wilfully misstate facts. I had never heard the statement made by any one previous to that time, nor did I ever see any reference to it in any newspaper and I am merely stating to you, my readers, what transpired.

There is not any bitterness in Europe against America. If there is, I did not discover it. It is pretty well covered up if it obtains. Neither is there any bitterness against America amongst the great masses of people in Germany, as the people now realize that America was forced into the war, and, may I express this thought, that unless some tribunal is established which will bring about arbitration, or which will at least compel conferences between nations having misunderstandings, nothing can hold us out of the next war, should one take place. Europe will find some way to force us in. Abe Martin, the Hoosier philosopher, recently said: "We are sending lots of our marines to China and we are not in the League of Nations."

(To be continued next month)



### ***Rail Safety Work Saves 1,600 Lives in Seven-Year Period***

Chicago. — Forty-four American railroads report that the safety movement has saved 1,600 lives and prevented 25,000 injuries since 1920, when the movement was started, Carl B. Gray, president of the Union Pacific, told the annual convention of the Safety Council of the American Railway Association here.

"These 44 roads out of the 189 Class 1 roads in this country reduced their wastage loss, arising from wrecks and personal injuries, from \$200,000,000 in 1920 to less than \$90,000,000 in 1926," continued Mr. Gray. "Payments totaling \$60,000,000 for personal injuries are included in that 1920 figure. We cut that item to less than \$30,000,000 last year. Those figures apply only to actual railroad employees."

"Last year there were 82 per cent fewer collisions than in 1917," said Lew R. Palmer, former president of

the National Safety Council. "That happy feat is directly traceable to the safety movement. I would estimate that in the same period the 2,000,000 railroad men in this country have been saved over 90,000 casualties by means of safety instruction."—International Labor News Service.

### ***Injunction Judge Defeated by Labor***

Belleville, Ill.—Organized labor in seven counties comprising the third judicial district blocked the renomination of Injunction Judge Crow.

"Organized labor was not only successful in the fight," said Al Towers, vice-president of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, "but the training trade unionists received will be an aid in eliminating enemies of labor from political life. This experience will be especially used against judges who persist in convicting citizens without trial by jury."



# CORRESPONDENCE

*Brooklyn, N. Y.*

May 5, 1927.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, President,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir and Brother:

I received my copy of the official Magazine this morning. I always look forward to reading it with real pleasure, but it is seldom that one is met with such good news as the item headed, "Can You Beat That?" To me the answer is, No!

I have read it several times to get it straight and it has prompted me to write you about it. My one regret is that every teamster and likewise their employers hasn't a copy to read, as it would give them something to think about—Local No. 584 and the Milk Conference Board, in particular.

Here's good luck to the Chicago brothers. May they continue to prosper as they must and will. They are using the proper method and the result of their work should please all hands. It speaks well for their unions and their leadership. I had a chance to see them and watch them work at Seattle and Bill Neer, and his associates, are a credit to them—long may they reign.

Some day New York may produce some like them, but it cannot be done overnight, so we must plod along as best we can. However, of this I feel sure, that the Teamsters of this city will some day take their proper position in the Labor Movement here, which has long been denied them by reason of the indifferent attitude taken by those concerned, so if the days of miracles are past we are lost, because only another Moses can lead us out of the wilderness into which we are drifting. But when we read about what Local 753 has done we must carry on and learn that "Eter-

nal vigilance is the price of liberty."

To me it seems like a question of salesmanship. Ours is a first class product, used everywhere, needed sorely and yet sells poorly. Why?

Can you imagine any commercial organization that would even expect to exist with such results unless they set themselves to the task of overcoming the fault?

Those responsible for the progress of the entire teamsters' movement seem to have gone quite a way towards finding a solution of our problem.

The only way to handle a situation is to meet it and not evade it and that to me is sound leadership.

Yours in unionism,

THOMAS HICKEY,  
Local No. 807.

*Cincinnati, Ohio*

May 19, 1927.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, President,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir and Brother:

At a recent meeting of the Executive Board of the International Molders' Union of North America, Lawrence O'Keefe, vice-president of our organization, and Frank Brown, business agent of Molders' Union No. 164 of San Francisco, appeared before them and gave a complete history of the trouble between the members of the Molders' Union and the Industrial Association of San Francisco.

They especially dwelt upon the charge of murder which has caused the arrest of two of our members; namely, Frank Brown and R. W. Burton, and in connection with this matter they gave a detailed account of what had been done in their behalf by the membership of your organization in San Francisco. The two



members above referred to were unjustly and unfairly charged; they were arrested and placed in prison; and the court demanded an excessive bond to secure their release. Through the instrumentality of two of your members, namely, Michael Casey and John McLaughlin, this bond was furnished from the funds of the local unions of your organization in San Francisco, and I was instructed by our Executive Board to write to you expressing the appreciation of the International Molders' Union.

The prompt and generous assistance accorded by the Teamsters' organization of San Francisco in behalf of our members, who are being persecuted and prosecuted, reflects to the credit of that spirit of true trades unionism which characterizes your organization. It encourages our members to put forth renewed efforts in the future and makes me proud, indeed, to be a member of organized labor when the principles professed are so honorably and generously carried out.

The trades unions of San Francisco are having a life and death struggle with the Industrial Association, and, by reason of the unfair, malicious and unjustifiable methods which are being pursued by this Association, we have no alternative but to fight and fight to the bitter end, unless we give up all of our rights and privileges and submit to their demands. This would mean that all of the foundries would be operated under their dictation and in accordance with their "Open Shop" policy.

Permit me once more to express my appreciation and thanks for the moral and financial assistance which has been given to the molders by the members in San Francisco of the organization of which you have the honor to be President.

Yours fraternally,  
M. J. KEOUGH,  
President.

### *Eight Hours for Women*

Phoenix, Ariz.—The new eight-hour law restricts the daily hours of women workers to eight and limits the work week to six days. The old law permitted the seven-day and 56-hour week. Women in manufacturing establishments, places of amusement, and railroad restaurants or eating houses on railroad property, none of whom was covered by the old law, are included in the new one.

### *"Unity Is Strength"*

Roger F. Babson is an expert on business conditions. Recently he gave the following example to illustrate the necessity of concentrating all your energies, if you are going to be effective in any particular direction:

"In one of the laboratories at Washington they have a great sun-glass that measures three feet across. It's like the 'burning glass' we used to treasure when we were boys—just larger.

"This great glass gathers the rays of the sun that strike its flat surface, and focuses on a single point in space, a few feet below. That spot is hotter than a blow-torch. It will melt through a steel plate as easily as a red-hot needle burns through paper.

"This terrific heat—it can't be measured, for it melts all instruments—is just three feet of ordinary sunshine concentrated on a single point. Scattered, these rays are hardly felt—perhaps just pleasantly warm—concentrated, they melt adamant.

"The same principle applies to human endeavor. Scattered, a man's energies do not amount to much. Once they are focused on the task at hand, seemingly tremendous difficulties melt like snow on a hot stove.

"Get the habit of concentrating. Throw onto the job all the steam you have. Remember that three feet of ordinary sunshine, concentrated, will burn through anything."—Western Producer.



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**L**OCAL UNIONS that are unable to employ a business agent have a hard time getting along. Unions of 150, or more, members should employ a business agent. The dues of the local union should not be less than \$3.00 or \$4.00 a month. The higher the dues the better the union.

Throughout the Eastern States the dues are low and some of those unions wonder at the success which obtains in local unions in and around Chicago.

The Milk Wagon Drivers with 6,500 members have raised their dues from \$4.00 to \$6.00 a month. The Dairy Employes with 2,800 members have done the same thing. The Packing House Drivers raised their dues from \$3.00 to \$4.00 a month. The Truck Drivers of Chicago pay \$3.00 or \$4.00 a month, and so on down the line.

When any trouble arises the unions have sufficient money to take care of court cases, strikebreakers, etc. If it is necessary to have some strikebreakers leave the job, they pay them, feed them, find them other employment, etc., and in addition to the strike benefit of \$10.00 a week paid by the International Union, the local pays an extra amount, making the strike benefit, in most instances, not less than \$20.00 a week.

Building up the local treasury is like putting money in the bank for a rainy day. If they have court cases, they have money with which to hire lawyers. They pay high class salaries to the officers in their employ and they also supply automobiles for them to get around in their work.

In the old days the business agent was handed a piece of change by the employer, thereby becoming the tool of the employer, or was used against the best interests of the men who elected him. This was true only in a few cases and the individuals who accepted did not last long. Poverty and want cause a great deal of wrongdoing.



**T**HE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL of the American Federation of Labor held its last meeting, ending May 19th, in the Carpenters Building in Indianapolis, where the headquarters of our International Union are located.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America recently added another story to their already large building, and their Board room, finished in American walnut and furnished throughout with beautiful furniture and oriental rugs, is one of the show places of Indianapolis, and is a high tribute to the skill and craftsmanship of the only wood workers' organization in America.



**T**HE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL of the American Federation of Labor while in session recently adopted a motion instructing President Green to notify the Seattle Central Body, the Tacoma Central Body and the Washington State Federation of Labor to unseat certain local unions of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' union that are holding in their membership drivers and chauffeurs coming properly under the jurisdiction of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs. This action was taken in accordance with the action of the San Francisco convention in 1915. In most cities throughout the country, we do not have any trouble with that organization and many of our unions work hand in hand with the Bakery Workers' unions.



Official Magazine of the  
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD  
of TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS  
STABLEMEN and HELPERS  
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